

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SS-15 EB-11 H-03 PA-03 PRS-01 AID-20

USIA-15 FDRE-00 AF-10 STR-08 CIEP-02 NSC-10 TRSE-00

OMB-01 AGR-20 VO-03 CPR-02 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5611

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: OVIP (CHEYSSON, CLAUDE)

SUBJ: VISIT OF EC COMMISSIONER CLAUDE CHEYSSON

REF: STATE 141985 AND EC BRUSSELS 3853

1. IN A DISCUSSION WITH MISSION OFFICERS, EC COMMISSIONER CHEYSSON HAS DESCRIBED IN SOME DETAIL THE PURPOSE AND SCOPE OF HIS FORTHCOMING TRIP TO WASHINGTON.

2. CHEYSSON'S PRESENT PLANS ARE TO ARRIVE IN WASHINGTON FROM PARIS THE AFTERNOON OF AUGUST 7 AND TO BE AVAILABLE FOR TWO FULL DAYS OF TALKS AUGUST 8 AND 9. HE WILL NOT DEPART WASHINGTON UNTIL MID-DAY AUGUST 10 AND HOPES TO USE THAT MORNING FOR MEETING WITH NINE AMBASSADORS AND SMALL PRESS GROUP. (HOTEL ARRANGEMENTS AND FRIDAY PROGRAM WILL BE HANDLED BY THE EC WASHINGTON OFFICE.)

3. CHEYSSON DESCRIBED THE PURPOSE OF HIS VISIT AS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR AN INITIAL EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON US AND EC POLICY TOWARD THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. HE
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WISHES TO CONCENTRATE ON THIS COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH

BUT OF COURSE HE IS WILLING TO DISCUSS THE SPECIFICS OF EC POLICY THINKING AS IT RELATES TO THE NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE ASSOCIATED AND ASSOCIABLE COUNTRIES, THE MEDITERRANEAN (CHEYSSON IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SOUTHERN TIER OF MEDITERRANEAN COUNTRIES RUNNING FROM SYRIA TO MOROCCO), AND OTHER LDCS IN GENERAL. HE IS ANXIOUS TO GO BEYOND WHAT HE CALLED "LEGALISMS" AND TO SPEAK IN MORE GENERAL POLICY TERMS, PARTICULARLY ON THOSE ASPECTS OF LDC POLICY THAT HAVE NOT BEEN ADEQUATELY COVERED IN THE PAST US-EC DISCUSSIONS.

4. CHEYSSON WOULD LIKE TO HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK TO SENIOR OFFICIALS IN THE ADMINISTRATION, CONGRESSMEN AND JOURNALISTS WITH PARTICULAR INTEREST IN LDC MATTERS. HE ALSO MENTIONED THE POSSIBILITY OF A JOINT BROOKINGS AND OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE SESSION ON LDC PROBLEMS.

5. WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, CHEYSSON WOULD LIKE TO MEET WITH UNDER SECRETARY CASEY AND OTHER OFFICIALS WITH RESPONSIBILITIES WHICH PARALLEL SOME OF CHEYSSON'S OWN. THESE MIGHT INCLUDE DEPUTY AID ADMINISTRATOR WILLIAMS (WITH REFERENCE TO HIS AID AND SAHELIAN RESPONSIBILITIES), ASSISTANT SECRETARY NEWSOM AND ASSISTANT SECRETARY ARMSTRONG OR DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY JULES KATZ. (DEPARTMENT MAY WISH CONSIDER CALL ON SECRETARY IN VIEW OF HIS INTEREST IN THESE MATTERS.) CHEYSSON INDICATED THAT BROAD SUBJECTS HE WISHES TO COVER ARE: TRADE AND AID POLICY, COMMODITY AGREEMENTS, MONETARY AND DEBT PROBLEMS AS THEY RELATE TO THE LDCS. ONE POSSIBILITY THAT MIGHT BE CONSIDERED BY THE DEPARTMENT WOULD BE AN INITIAL JOINT INTER-DEPARTMENTAL MEETING, PERHAPS CHAIRED BY UNDER SECRETARY CASEY, AT WHICH A COMPREHENSIVE LOOK COULD BE TAKEN ON HOW BOTH SIDES VIEW THESE MATTERS, FOLLOWED BY INDIVIDUAL MEETINGS.

6. CHEYSSON ALSO HAS EXPRESSED INTEREST IN MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR EBERLE, MR. FLANIGAN, MR. HENNESSY AT THE TREASURY AND PERHAPS WITH SENIOR AGRICULTURAL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OFFICIALS INTERESTED IN COMMODITY PROBLEMS SUCH AS SUGAR.

7. CHEYSSON IS AWARE THAT THE CONGRESS WILL BE IN RECESS DURING HIS VISIT, HOWEVER, IF CONGRESSMEN OR SENATORS WITH A PARTICULAR INTEREST IN LDC MATTERS ARE AVAILABLE, HE WOULD BE HAPPY TO MEET WITH THEM OR IN THEIR ABSENCE WITH SENIOR STAFF PEOPLE FROM THE HOUSE FOREIGN AFFAIRS OR SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS

COMMITTEE AS WELL AS THE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE.
WITH REGARD TO THE LATTER, CHEYSSON HAS AN INTEREST
IN KNOWING THE STATUS AND CURRENT THINKING WITH
REGARD TO THE US SYSTEM OF GENERALIZED PREFERENCES.

8. ON BROOKINGS/ODC SESSION, WE SUGGESTED THAT JIM
GRANT MIGHT ARRANGE A JOINT LUNCH OR INFORMAL EVENING
DISCUSSION.

9. CHEYSSON IS ANXIOUS TO MEET WITH A SMALL PRESS
GROUP COMPOSED OF JOURNALISTS WHO HAVE AN INTEREST
IN DEVELOPMENT ISSUES. IT WAS DECIDED THAT THE EC
WASHINGTON OFFICE SHOULD SET UP SUCH A MEETING (AS
WELL AS ONE WITH THE AMBASSADORS OF THE NINE) ON
FRIDAY MORNING. THE MISSION HAS SUGGESTED THAT THE
DEPARTMENT TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR SETTING UP ALL
APPOINTMENTS OTHER THAN THOSE DESCRIBED IN THIS PARAGRAPH
AND THAT SHOULD THE EC'S WASHINGTON OFFICE HAVE
SUGGESTIONS WITH REGARD TO THESE APPOINTMENTS AND OTHER
ASPECTS OF THE VISITS, THE COORDINATION SHOULD BE
THROUGH MR. KATZ IN EUR/RPE. CHEYSSON SPEAKS
EXCELLENT ENGLISH. HARTMAN

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